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Worldwide Report

EPIDEMIOLOGY

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WORLDWIDE REPORT

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CONTENTS

HUMAN DISEASES

ARGENTINA

Briefs

Antimeasles Campaign 1

FRANCE

'Imported' Malaria Must Be Reported to Authorities
(LE MONDE, 12 Mar 80)..... 2Anguillulosis Attacks 50 at Creteil Hospital Center
(LE MONDE, 15 Mar 80)..... 3

INDONESIA

Briefs

Leprosy in Indonesia 4

ITALY

Hepatitis, Typhoid, Salmonella on Increase in Apulia
(Franco Ferorelli; GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO,
21 Mar 80)..... 5

KAMPUCHEA

Briefs

Contagious Disease Prevention 8

CONTENTS (Continued)

NEW ZEALAND

Case of Listeriosis Reported in Wellington (THE EVENING POST, 7, 12 Mar 80).....	9
Man Hospitalized Sources Untraced	
Scientists Testing for Legionnaire's Disease (Various sources 31 Mar, 8 Apr 80).....	11
Few Dozen Suspected Cases To Become Notifiable Disease	
Scaremongering Over Rubella Immunization Denounced (Various sources, various dates).....	13
Health Minister's Statement Misrepresentation Charged Doctor Reprimanded, Silenced Immunization Gaps Reported	
Medical Team Fighting Dengue Fever in Niue (Various sources, 19, 28 Mar 80).....	16
At Least 200 Cases Epidemic Subsiding	
Salmonella Outbreak Reported in Hutt Valley (THE EVENING POST, 27 Mar, 1 Apr 80).....	18
Source Not Pinpointed First Detected 14 March	

THAILAND

Briefs	
Cholera Reports	20

ANIMAL DISEASES

ARGENTINA

Adulteration of Foot-and-Mouth Vaccine Investigated (LA NACION, 22 Mar 80).....	21
--	----

CONTENTS (Continued)

Briefs		
Cattle Disease		23
INDONESIA		
Briefs		
Anthrax in Southeast Sulawesi		24
Swine Erysipelas in Jakarta		24
North Sumatra Animal Diseases		24
NEW ZEALAND		
Steps To Curb Trout Whirling Disease Demanded		
(THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD, 19 Mar 80).....		25
PLANT DISEASES AND INSECT PESTS		
WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS		
Briefs		
USSR Antilocust Afghanistan Expedition		26
INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS		
Briefs		
Tsetse Training Center		27
VIETNAM		
Briefs		
Drought, Insects Affect Rice		28
ZAMBIA		
IRLCS Finds 'Zambia Has no Locusts'		
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 14 Apr 80).....		29

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

ANTIMEASLES CAMPAIGN--La Plata--The antimeasles vaccination campaign to be carried out throughout Buenos Aires Province, and which was scheduled to start yesterday, has been postponed until tomorrow and will consequently extend until 2 April. This was announced by the Buenos Aires Ministry of Health, which also noted that the delay in beginning the operation was due to the climatic conditions prevailing over almost the entire country. An extensive antimeasles campaign was carried out yesterday--and will be repeated on 28 March--in Rosario and throughout the province. This campaign required the use of all regular health services and those of municipal and provincial hospitals, maternity, child care and local centers from 7 am to 12 noon. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 25 Mar 80 p 14] 11915

CSO: 5400

'IMPORTED' MALARIA MUST BE REPORTED TO AUTHORITIES

Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Mar 80 p 19

[Text] A decree appearing in the 'Official Journal'--"Imported" malaria obligatorily has to be declared-- All cases of malaria must henceforth be declared to health authorities: a decree dated 5 March appearing in the 'Official Journal' of Monday, 10 March, in fact requires the inclusion of "primary aboriginal malaria" and "imported malaria" in the list of diseases for which "declaration is compulsory."

Up to now only primary aboriginal malaria contracted in French territory (including overseas departments and territories) obligatorily had to be declared. To this will be added from now on cases of malaria contracted outside of the borders. The minister of health and social security wishes, through this measure, to sensitize the population--and the medical corps-- to the risk which this disease represents. At the end of an investigation carried out by the ministry in the different sections of French parasitology, it indeed comes to light that several hundreds of cases of malaria are "imported" into France each year.

The list of diseases for which declaration is compulsory includes--apart from those which the international health regulation mentions: smallpox, yellow fever, cholera, plague, that is to say what used to be called "quarantine diseases"--around thirty ailments such as cerebro-spinal meningitis, undulant fever, and viral hepatitis, to which venereal diseases are added.

9498

CSO: 5400

ANGUILLULOSIS ATTACKS 50 AT CRETEIL HOSPITAL CENTER

Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Mar 80 p 20

[Text] At the intercommunal hospital of Créteil 50 people are affected with a parasitosis of tropical origin. Around 50 staff members of the intercommunal hospital center of Créteil (Val-de-Marne) have become affected with a parasitosis of tropical origin, anguillulosis, which causes digestive indispositions of varying degrees of seriousness.

It seems, according to the hospital's management office, that the source of contamination may have been in the kitchens, a warm and damp medium which could have enabled the larvae to survive and to contaminate the cafeteria food. No new case has broken out since Monday, 10 March, it is indicated from the same source, and the 50 staff members are being actively treated. In total check-up examinations have been made on 200 of the 2,200 people who work in the hospital. The management intends to have the establishment's entire personnel force checked.

Anguillulosis is a parasitic disease caused by a microscopic worm whose larvae penetrate through the skin; the latter, carried by the blood, grow into adult parasites inside of the intestines. This parasitosis, which particularly causes digestive discomforts and a loss of appetite, remains harmless, once it is detected and treated. Without appropriate treatment, especially if the doctor, unadvised, prescribes corticoids, a prominent toxico-infectious and sometimes fatal syndrome can appear.

9498

CSO: 5400

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

LEPROSY IN INDONESIA--As of June 1979, there were 115,815 persons suffering from leprosy in Indonesia; more than 83 percent were being treated. This is down from 180,000 reported cases in 1972. The department of health called upon victims to seek treatment, and asked that cases be reported. Irian Jaya, with 10 cases per million, had the highest incidence, followed by Maluku, Nusa Tenggara, South Sulawesi and Java. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 14 Mar 80 p 5] 9197

CSO: 5400

HEPATITIS, TYPHOID, SALMONELLA ON INCREASE IN APULIA

Bari GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO in Italian 21 Mar 80 p 4

[Article by Franco Ferorelli: "Increases in Cases of Hepatitis in Apulia in Last 5 Months"]

[Text] "Raw seafood? I like it too much; I cannot do without it. Is it dangerous? But ever since I was vaccinated, I have always eaten it!" With statements like these, all campaigns in the interest of hygiene and health education lose their effect. "One who is accustomed to eating it is not taking any risk." Thus, it is intimated that only "raw seafood" lovers are the ones who, sooner or later, must pay for their indulgence, thereby helping to increase the incidence of oral-fecal diseases (hepatitis, typhoid, salmonella), which, unfortunately, are endemic in our region.

Therefore, it is no wonder that these figures are constantly on the rise, especially with regard to hepatitis. As can be seen in the table below, a comparison of the figures for September 1979 through January 1980 with those of the same period of the preceding year shows that the districts of Bari and Taranto recorded the highest increase in cases of hepatitis: +199 (+36.4 percent) in Bari and +70 (+68 percent) in Taranto. Increases were less in the other Apulian districts: +30 cases (+23.6 percent) in Brindisi, +51 cases (22.1 percent) in Foggia and +25 cases (20.3 percent) in Lecce.

The status of typhoid is of less concern, increases in the number of cases showing up in the districts of Bari, Lecce and Foggia and slight decreases in those of Brindisi and Taranto.

With regard to salmonella, the figures show a slight drop in the district of Bari (which, however, still holds the record for the period in question ending 1979 and beginning 1980), a static situation in the district of Brindisi and increases in the districts of Taranto and Lecce and, especially, Foggia.

Month	Bari			Brindisi			Foggia			Lecce			Taranto		
	Hepatitis	Typhoid	Salmonel.	Hepatitis	Typhoid	Salmonel.	Hepatitis	Typhoid	Salmonel.	Hepatitis	Typhoid	Salmonel.	Hepatitis	Typhoid	Salmonel.
September 1979	101	42	11	20	13	1	76	18	21	21	7	2	28	3	1
September 1978	125	37	26	38	28	3	69	19	8	48	12	1	22	15	1
October 1979	109	40	31	20	4	2	62	8	7	26	8	3	40	4	2
October 1978	128	59	27	26	10	1	52	8	1	23	3	1	21	7	2
November 1979	208	147	18	51	17	1	32	11	2	36	8	-	42	25	1
November 1978	111	61	11	19	6	3	47	8	9	13	6	-	20	16	1
December 1979	245	90	7	45	13	-	69	17	4	49	22	-	45	17	3
December 1978	84	71	8	20	16	-	23	4	-	16	3	-	14	14	-
January 1980	82	85	11	21	20	4	42	5	3	16	9	1	18	20	1
January 1979	98	111	15	24	16	1	39	10	1	23	12	-	26	21	-
Totals 1979-1980	745	404	78	157	67	8	281	59	37	148	54	6	173	69	8
Totals 1978-1979	546	339	87	127	76	8	230	49	19	123	36	2	103	73	4

Totals in Apulia: [first figures 1979-1980; figures in parentheses 1978-1979] hepatitis 1,504 (1,129); typhoid 653 (573); salmonella 137 (120). The figures include the entire districts.

Moreover, the figures for 1978 show that the number of cases tends to decrease as the cold season advances but then take a jump upward in January 1979 immediately after the Christmas holidays as a result of the traditional feasts which, according to Apulian tradition, do not represent the true Christmas spirit, if they do not include "copious amounts" of raw seafood and vegetables.

Nevertheless, almost inexplicably, in January 1980 there was a significant drop: fewer feasts and greater food hygiene? In any case, it is to be hoped that the trend toward a decline will continue in the months to come, despite the approach of summer, when we usually experience the highest incidence of the entire year. Much can be accomplished by a far-reaching effort toward education and prevention. Controls are being exercised over all possible sources of contamination and on the cleanliness of sales outlets; and cleaning arrangements and storage facilities are being installed for the preservation of mussels; but it is particularly essential for the people to be convinced of the need to take part in the fight against these diseases which, unfortunately, still have roots in our region. The struggle is all the more necessary as it is considered that the statistics shown cover only the cases which have been reported, that is, perhaps only the tip of the iceberg.

B56H

CSO: 5400

KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

CONTACTOUS DISEASE PREVENTION--The Phnom Penh medical service has taken preventive measures against dry-season contagious diseases. Specialized medical teams have given vaccinations and organized campaigns to explain these measures to the people in various quarters of the city. Sanitation classes were recently opened for 340 medical workers in Phnom Penh.
[(Clandestine) SPR in French 0357 GMT 5 Mar 80 BK]

CSO: 5400

CASE OF LISTERIOSIS REPORTED IN WELLINGTON

Man Hospitalized

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 7 Mar 80 p 1

[COPY]

A CASE of listeriosis, the bacterial disease which has killed five Aucklanders, has been reported in Wellington.

Until the District Health Officer staff finish investigations, they will not know whether this means that the Auckland outbreak has spread to Wellington.

The medical officer of health (De Elise Garden) said today the case was a man in Wellington Hospital. He had been there for some time for other reasons, but he had been out in the community in that time so how and where he caught the disease is not known.

The Health Department has warned that pregnant women who become ill or who had flu-like symptoms, even if mild, should contact their doctor.

Source Untraced

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 12 Mar 80 p 6

[Text]

The Wellington District Health Office has made little headway in tracing the source of a case of listeriosis reported last week.

The medical officer of health (Dr Ellie Garden) said today a health inspector had talked to the man with the disease, but had not been able to find where he contracted it.

The man has been in Wellington Hospital for some time for other reasons. He had been allowed out on leave, but Dr Garden said during the leave he had had no contact with an obvious source.

Dr Garden will be visiting the hospital and talking to the staff

treating the patient in an effort to learn more.

Listeriosis is a bacterial disease which has killed five Aucklanders, but Dr Garden said there was nothing to link the Wellington case with the Auckland outbreak.

This was the only case reported to the Wellington office. It has had no reports of local people having been in terminal one at Heathrow Airport in mid-February. That was when a case of typhoid was found in one of the terminal's catering establishments. Warnings were issued to travellers who had eaten or drunk at the terminal, or who had used it and became ill.

CSO: 2400

NEW ZEALAND

SCIENTISTS TESTING FOR LEGIONNAIRE'S DISEASE

Few Dozen Suspected Cases

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 31 Mar 80 p 6

[Text] PA Wellington--New Zealand has seen "a good few dozen" suspected cases of Legionnaire's disease in the last year, according to a senior scientist at the National Health Institute (Dr K. A. Bettelheim).

In at least one case the patient died. But none could be definitely diagnosed as Legionnaire's disease.

This was because the institute was still gathering the necessary background information on the disease, Dr Bettelheim said.

Scientists make a diagnosis by doing tests on the antibody level in the blood. To say a person definitely has the disease they must know what level of antibodies is normal for the New Zealand population.

The institute is testing hundreds of healthy people to gather information and Dr Bettelheim said he hoped they would be able to make firm diagnosis within the year.

Wellington's Medical Officer of Health (Dr Ellie Garden) said on Saturday that a Wellington man had died of the disease within the last eight weeks.

In August last year authorities said a Wellington man had died the previous month, supposedly from Legionnaire's disease.

Dr Bettelheim said the disease was not a new one, although it had been identified and named only fairly recently.

According to American research, Legionnaire's disease comprised about 2 percent of what were previously considered to be undiagnosed a typical pneumonias.

Legionnaire's disease was first recognized in 1976, when it killed 26 United States former servicemen who had attended a Philadelphia convention.

Doctors do not think the disease is passed by human contact. It is thought to be an air-borne disease, and one theory is that it could be transmitted through air-conditioning units.

Symptoms are high temperature, pain in the stomach, chest and eyes and swelling.

Is Becoming Notifiable Disease

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 8 Apr 80 p 13

[over]

THERE have been no other confirmed cases of legionnaires disease in Wellington since the four cases from which one death resulted were notified about four weeks ago.

Wellington's medical officer of health (Dr Elsie Gordon) said the cases were discovered over an eight-week period since testing for the disease began in February.

Testing was started because the disease is due to be added to the list of

notifiable diseases some time this year.

The "Post" was told last week that there had been seven suspected cases of the disease and four people had died. Dr Gordon said only the four cases had been confirmed by blood testing as legionnaires disease.

The interpretation I would put on it is that it is probably a condition which has been present but we have not actually been looking for it," she said.

It was an interesting new disease but did not pose the same hazard as some other notifiable diseases because, as far as was known, it could not be passed from one person to another.

Legionnaires disease is believed to be linked to air conditioning systems. It sprang into prominence after it struck legionnaires at a conference in Philadelphia in 1976.

Research has shown it

occurred before that and there is good evidence of a case having been diagnosed in the United States in 1947.

The "Medical Journal" reported in September last year there had been cases of the disease in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Israel, The Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom and made up four to 10 percent of otherwise undiagnosed pneumonias in those countries.

CH 111 11111

SCAREMONGERING OVER RUBELLA IMMUNIZATION DENOUNCED

Health Minister's Statement

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Mar 1978 p 11

[Text] (Wellington, March 5 (CPA))—The Minister of Health (Mr Gair) tonight hit out at what he called scaremongering over rubella immunisation.

He said this created serious and unnecessary unease among concerned members of the public.

"Adults and intelligent teenagers alike share unnecessary worry and fear of cancer," he said.

Mr Gair was speaking at the installation of the New Zealand Medical Association's new president, Dr B J Dowden, of Whangarei.

He said "unfortunate misinformation" had been generated by Dr William Hamilton, the National Health Institute's chief virologist, who says rubella vaccine could cause cancer.

Mr Gair declared: "Let me categorically state that there is no evidence to support the claims of Dr Hamilton."

The epidemiological advisory committee had fully considered and rejected Dr Hamilton's assertions, he said.

"Overseas experts have confirmed our New Zealand experts' view and some internationally respected virologists have totally rejected every statement made by Dr Hamilton in respect of cancer-related risk," Mr Gair said.

Because of uncertainty by the public and even among some doctors, a summary of this investigation was being prepared for publication in the medical press.

Mr Gair said he hardly needed to stress the terrible and avoidable sequels of rubella contracted during early pregnancy.

"The unnecessary suffering and incapacity from

deafness, congenital heart disease, and visual defects is an unreasonable price to pay for needless interference with a proven safe immunisation programme," he told the doctors.

An outbreak of rubella affecting pregnant New Zealand women in 1964 had caused an estimated 300 cases of congenital deafness, apart from other defects.

"Experience in England, where there is not the same level of immunisation as we have here, suggests that without our immunisation programme in operation since 1970, a similar outbreak to the 1964 tragedy could have occurred again in 1979 and 1980, with a repetition of its medical consequences," Mr Gair said.

Misrepresentation Charged

Archived THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 14 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

Press Assn Wellington

The Minister of Health, Mr Gair, has been accused of "grossly misrepresenting" a doctor who has spoken out against the rubella vaccine programme.

The president of the Public Service Association, Mr D. H. Thorp, was replying yesterday to statements made by the minister at the recent installation of the New Zealand Medical Association's new president.

According to Mr Gair, Dr William Hamilton of the

National Health Institute, had been guilty of "misrepresenting and disseminating" "unfortunate information."

"There is no such thing as a proven safe immunisation programme," said Mr Thorp.

Dr Hamilton had earlier said that the Health Department's rubella vaccine could be a potential dangerous cancer-inducing hybrid virus.

Mr Thorp said that Dr Hamilton did not want to see the vaccine dropped outright but that it should be given to those who clearly needed the protection.

Doctor Reprimanded, Silenced

Archived THE PRESS in English 21 Mar 80 p 4

[Text]

PA Wellington

A Health Department doctor has been reprimanded and told not to speak to reporters about his fears that the rubella measles vaccine could be a potentially cancer inducing hybrid virus.

Dr William Hamilton, of the National Health Institute, said when approached yesterday he had been told "pretty bluntly" not to talk, but the president of the Public Service Association (Mr D. H. Thorp), revealed that the doctor had been reprimanded by the State Services Commission.

Dr Hamilton was found guilty of disobeying an instruction from the Director General of Health not to contact the Minister of Health or members of Parliament about his fears. He was found to have communicated with the Minister and the Opposition spokesman on health.

Another charge that he had conveyed information outside his department was found not proved because the information was already available.

Dr Hamilton had not exercised his appeal rights, said Mr Thorp.

Dr Hamilton's claim about the rubella vaccine have led to an exchange of charges between Mr Thorp and the Minister of Health (Mr Gair).

Mr Thorp asserted that Mr Gair had grossly misrepresented to the public the concern raised by Dr Hamilton.

"Dr Hamilton has raised serious doubts about the rubella vaccine programme," Mr Thorp said.

"While there are doubts all possible safeguards must be taken."

"Dr Hamilton is not proposing that the vaccine be dropped outright, but that, as an alternative strategy, it should only be given to those who clearly require the protection it gives."

"If Mr Gair is so satisfied with the present vaccine, could he explain why it is being withdrawn, and why the department is tendering for a new vaccine type?"

Mr Gair charged Mr Thorp with stepping well beyond the P.S.A's role of defending a vaccine when he cast doubts about the safety of rubella immunisation.

"I have an argument with the P.S.A. over its right to defend Dr Hamilton, but when the prevalent facts doubt on the proven and safe rubella immunisation

programme, I must protest in the interests of thousands of New Zealand women and children," Mr Gair said.

"The spectre raised by Dr Hamilton of cancer resulting from rubella immunisations is completely without scientific foundation, a fact which is well substantiated by New Zealand and international authorities."

Mr Gair said vaccines were, as a matter of routine, put out to tender every three years or so. The present tendering for rubella vaccine was part of this normal procedure.

Mr Thorp said that while the charges against Dr Hamilton had been disposed of, the P.S.A. was concerned about the wider issue of freedom of information.

"Rather than have a blanket restriction on the release of information, there should be restrictions only on specific items where it is clear that confidentiality should be maintained," he said.

"We are also concerned that public servants should be able to speak out on matters of serious public concern, particularly in the field of health," Mr Thorp said.

Immunization Gaps Reported

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 20 Mar 80 p 10

[Text] Unless strong measures are taken to convince parents of the need to immunise their children, we are unlikely ever to have every New Zealand child completely safeguarded against serious preventable illness.

That was the conclusion reached by a Christchurch research team which found gaps in the immunisation of a group of infants they surveyed.

Their findings are reported in the latest issue of the "Medical Journal."

The team found that more than 10 percent of the 1180 infants surveyed were either not immunised, incompletely immunised, or immunised late in their first year of life.

Most belonged to families of non-European origin, single parent families and families with depressed living standards.

Failure of traditional advertising and education programmes to reach those people suggested tougher alternatives may be needed.

For instance, centralised immunisation registers and financial incentives or disincentives, perhaps through social welfare benefits. There would no doubt be opposition to this because it would increase the cost of the system. Using case-finding methods could be seen as invading parental liberties.

MEDICAL TEAM FIGHTING DENGUE FEVER IN NIUE

At Least 200 Cases

Wellington on THE EVENING POST in English 19 Mar 80 p 40

[Text] A team of New Zealand doctors and nurses has been flown to Niue following a request from the Premier (Mr Robert Rex) for emergency assistance due to a suspected outbreak of dengue fever there. This was announced today by the Minister of Foreign Affairs (Mr Talboys).

Dengue fever is a painful viral disease that is carried by the same mosquito that carries yellow fever.

It causes such pain in the bones that it is also known as "breakbone fever."

Mr Talboys said that there are 200 known cases in Niue so far. Two women and a child have died.

He added that it has not been possible to take a full count in all the villages yet.

"The situation has been aggravated by the fact that one of the four doctors

resident in Niue is ill with the disease and another is still recovering from it."

The New Zealand team consists of two doctors and two nurses from the Infectious Diseases Department of the Auckland Hospital.

They are expected to remain in Niue for at least two weeks.

"We are in close contact with Niuean authorities through the New Zealand representative there. We will provide any further assistance that might be required."

Epidemic Subsiding

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 28 Mar 80 p 18

[Text]

The dengue fever epidemic on Niue Island appears to be on the wane.

The director of health on the island, Dr H. T. Nemala, said yesterday there were only 18 new cases of the fever, which has killed four people.

About 700 of the island's population of 3500 have been affected by the fever.

A team of two doctors and two nurses from Auckland Hospital and two World Health Organisation doctors from Fiji have been helping to fight the epidemic.

Dr Nemala yesterday praised their efforts.

He said the Islanders were also mounting a vigorous campaign against mosquitoes, the carriers of the fever.

Large areas had been sprayed, said Dr Nemala, but that was only a short-term solution. The Islanders were trying to eradicate all mosquito breeding grounds.

030: 7000

SALMONELLA OUTBREAK REPORTED IN HUTT VALLEY

Source Not Pinpointed

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 27 Mar 80 p 8

[Text]

Ten people have been admitted to Hutt Hospital over the past month as a result of the recent salmonella outbreak in the Hutt Valley, according to the principal inspector of health for the Hutt district, Mr Mac Lynch.

The usual length of hospitalisation for the disease was about two days, he said.

The majority of people did not need hospitalisation, only careful home treatment.

Those who have been admitted to hospital have

been mainly older people or very young children, who are most vulnerable to the dehydration caused by salmonella's symptoms of vomiting and diarrhoea.

Thirty-five cases of salmonella had now been reported in the Hutt area, an increase of six cases in the last five days, with several of those having had contact with previous cases, Mr Lynch said.

The source of the outbreak has still not been pinpointed by the Health Department.

First Detected 14 March

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 1 Apr 80 p 1

[Text]

ALTHOUGH the number of salmonella food-poisoning cases being reported in the Hutt has dropped over the last few days, it is still too early to tell whether the outbreak is over, the principal inspector of health for the Hutt District (Mr Mac Lynch) said today.

Mr Lynch said that when the outbreak was first detected on March 14, three or four cases were being reported daily to the Health Department.

That has dropped to a couple of cases daily, with most secondary infections.

However there is a time lag of up to a month between a doctor treating a case and notifying the Health Department — the time it takes to carry out tests to confirm a case.

So far, 43 salmonella cases have been reported in the Hutt.

Mr Lynch said the outbreak seemed to have been caused by contaminated food sometime early in March. The Health Department had not definitely identified the source but had a good idea what it was.

C50: 7400

THAILAND

BRIEFS

CHOLERA REPORTS-- The 3-month-old spread of cholera has shown no signs of relenting and has since January claimed 43 lives and over 2,000 patients, a senior doctor of the Public Health Ministry said yesterday. The death toll was the highest ever recorded during the same period in the past several years, said Dr Suchart Chettanasen, the director of the Division of Epidemiology. Bangkok, he said, has been hardest hit by the epidemic which since January killed at least 4 people and claimed 943 patients. He said the number of the cholera patients was three times higher than that recorded during the same period in the previous years. At the beginning of last month only 22 persons were reported to have died of cholera in 36 provinces. The death toll has risen to 42 [as published] this month and the epidemic has spread now to at least 41 provinces in which a total of 2,210 people were found to be suffering from the disease, said Dr Suchat. He, however, said that despite the high number of deaths and victims of cholera this year, the severity of the disease is still considered low when compared with the epidemics in the past. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 4 Apr 80 p 3 BK] Consumption of contaminated water and piles of uncleared garbage were yesterday blamed for the 49 cholera deaths reported nationwide so far this year--2 more than the number reported in all of last year. This year's deaths were from among 2,673 persons who contacted the disease--as against 1,498 cases last year--and a senior official of the Communicable Disease Control Department (CDCD) said that the "significantly higher rate is a cause of great concern." Though the situation is still nowhere near epidemic proportions, Dr Natda Siyaphai, deputy director general of the CDCD urged people to eat only well-cooked food and drink purified, boiled water. Of the total number of cases, Bangkok reported 1,191 with 5 deaths and its three neighbouring provinces, Samut Prakan, Nonthaburi and Pathum Thani, 602 cases with deaths. The remaining 875 cases have been reported in 46 provinces, of which the highest is Nakhon Ratchasima with 131 cases and 1 death. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 80 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5400

ADULTERATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH VACCINE INVESTIGATED

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Mar 80 p 14

[Text] With the arrest of four members who are probably the ringleaders and the discovery of a warehouse, the organization adulterating foot and mouth vaccine, an operation which has harmed the government and four laboratories, has practically been wrecked.

However, investigations are continuing under the supervision of the Federal Police, as it is assumed that there may be other persons responsible for distributing the adulterated product and samples of same in the office of veterinarians in the interior.

The number of doses confiscated was approximately 10 million, whose sale would have brought the criminals about \$2 million.

Although it was initially believed that 2.1 million doses had been distributed, this amount has been reduced to a scarcely significant figure since only product samples were distributed.

Warehouse Raid

At about 1400 hours yesterday, a police commission composed of staff members of the Economic Crimes, Fraud and Swindling Division, under the supervision of Inspecting Commissioner Jose Gonzalez and Commissioner Alberto Diaz, proceeded to raid a house where goods were stored, located at 5767 Manuela Pedraza, where approximately 10 million doses of adulterated foot and mouth disease vaccine from the Bayer, Rosembusch, Paul and Livestock Health laboratories were found.

Following the raid, Commissioner Diaz said that the labels of the aforementioned laboratories and the tax stamp issued by the National Animal Health Service (SENASA) had also been falsified.

He added that although no one was arrested at the time, the police investigation had previously made possible the arrest of four subjects, who are probably the principal persons involved in the case.

Police commissions are now looking for the remaining adulterators, who formed an actual association for breaking the law.

Commissioner Diaz said that this is the most extensive adulteration of pharmaceutical products in his memory and pointed out that because of the very serious consequences which it could have had on Argentine livestock breeding, the indictment will be made under the law to control subversion and terrorism.

In the raid carried out, almost a dozen 200-liter drums were found, each containing distilled water, tens of liters of carbolic acid, coloring agents and jars of aluminum hydroxide, components used to make the vaccine.

Several rooms in the house were filled with sacks of labeled containers ready to be filled with a liquid similar to the original vaccines.

A police chemical technician said that at first sight the livestock breeder could not tell that the product had been adulterated, since the containers even had false tax stamps.

Finally, Commissioner Diaz pointed out the seriousness and possible consequences of this type of adulteration, which could have ultimately affected the country's agricultural and livestock production. And he added: "This is subversion, this is terrorism, and as a result the federal courts are proceeding so that the indictment will be made under the Law of Security."

11915
CSO: 5400

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

CATTLE DISEASE--San Miguel del Tucuman--More than 100 cattle, horses, sheep and goats have died from various diseases in the isolated locales of Anca Juli--reached after 8 hours by mule pack--and Las Arquitas, both in the mountainous area of Tafi. According to technical reports, the cattle were infected with pyroplasmosis, the horses with adenitis, and the sheep and goats with endoparasitosis. Measures were taken through the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock, since the residents of these remote locales have little means of subsistence and also lack technical cattle assistance. [Text] [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Mar 80 sec 3a, p 2] 11915

CSO: 3400

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

ANTHRAX IN SOUTHEAST SULAWESI--Cattle deaths from anthrax in Kolaka, Southeast Sulawesi, are rising, according to the chief of the area Cattle Breeding Service, Dr Nyoman Sabha. Although humans have not been affected, several died a few years ago from eating cattle infected with anthrax. Cows who die from anthrax are to be buried, and the soil burned, so that the germs cannot be absorbed by plants. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Mar 80 p 8] 9197

SWINE ERYSIPELAS IN JAKARTA--Hogs of two months or older in West Jakarta will be vaccinated against erysipelas, which is affecting hogs, their keepers, and those who eat meat from diseased hogs. Hogs coming from outside the area will be quarantined before slaughter is permitted. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 11 Mar 80 p 3] 9197

NORTH SUMATRA ANIMAL DISEASES--Drh Th Adat Peranginangin, chief of the Animal Disease Research Institute in Medan noted that the incidence of canine rabies in North Sumatra was high, with 40 cases in January. In addition, "white diarrhea" accounts for about 75 percent of the deaths of young hogs in the area; water buffalo in Meulaboh and Simalungun are dying from mineral deficiencies; and surra is attacking cattle in Samosir. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 11 Feb 80 p 8] 9197

STEPS TO CURB TROUT WHIRLING DISEASE DEMANDED

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 5

[Text]

Staff Reporter Rotorua

An immediate ban on the movement of all freshwater fish from the South Island to the North Island is seen as the only means of saving the Rotorua and Taupo trout industry from being devastated by whirling disease.

And the South Island outbreak of whirling disease has meant a further setback to proposed North Island trout farming.

Whirling disease affects the brains of young trout. It spreads to their backbones, causing them to swim in circles. Trout which do not die from the disease are permanently deformed.

The disease was noticed earlier this month at the

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries trout hatchery at Silverstream, near Christchurch.

Although the disease could be seen in only 300 fingerlings, the entire stock of 27,000 was destroyed.

The central North Island Wildlife Conservancy Council has asked the ministry for an immediate ban on the movement of freshwater fish, dead or alive, between the islands.

The council chairman, Mr J. Jardine, said the outbreak was a matter of great concern because it could take six months before the disease showed up.

"It will be another six months before we know exactly what the situation is at Silverstream," he said.

"The outbreak is another strong argument against introducing trout farming. Whenever you group any stock together on a farm, you start to get disease spreading. When you have a heavy congregation of stock, the trouble is more likely to spread.

"If there is an outbreak of disease in a trout farm, the entire stock must be destroyed and the area banned for any future as a trout farm."

Mr Jardine said the central Bay of Plenty had one of the purest strains of rainbow trout.

"We are called upon to supply rainbow trout to other countries because this is a disease-free area. This outbreak puts our hatcheries in jeopardy."

CSO: 5400

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

USSR ANTILOCUST AFGHANISTAN EXPEDITION--Tashkent, April 11, TASS--A Soviet locust-control expedition left for Afghanistan today. It will conduct chemical treatment of locust breeding sites on 60,000 hectares in six northern provinces. In recent years such expeditions have been working in Afghanistan without compensation every spring ensuring a reliable protection of crops. One more task of the expedition is to train national personnel for plant protection work. Many of them have already attended seminars in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. Now they will be able to consolidate their knowledge by working together with their Soviet colleagues. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 11 Apr 80 LD]

CSO: 5400

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

TSETSE TRAINING CENTER--The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) is to establish a commission to control African animal trypanosomiasis, director of the Zambia-based project--known as "tsetse applied research and training" Dr. David Baldry, has disclosed. The "tsetse applied research and training" is a FAO/UNDP sponsored K1 million programme to develop international techniques in tsetse fly control in Africa. It was launched in Lusaka last year. According to Dr. Baldry, the proposed commission would give advice to member nations and associate members of FAO on techniques his project would develop in the control of African animals trypanosomiasis. Speaking in an interview this week, Dr. Baldry was optimistic his project would work out methods to control tsetse menace at regional and sub-regional levels when completed in April 1982. The methods would help advance Africa's economic progress which has been retarded because about ten million square kilometres of her land is infested with tsetse flies. Dr. Baldry explained that his team had finished the preparatory phase of the project and that FAO had endorsed its activities. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Apr 80 p 4]

CSO: 5400

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

DROUGHT, INSECTS AFFECT RICE--According to the figures obtained from 13 provinces, as many as 85,000 hectares of rice have now been affected by blight and insects and another 42,000 hectares have been subjected to water shortage. Faced with this situation, cooperatives in these provinces are adopting necessary measures to care for and protect rice against blight and insects. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 24 Apr 80 BK]

CSO: 5400

IRLCS FINDS 'ZAMBIA HAS NO LOCUSTS'

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Apr 80 p 2

[Text]

THE International Red Locust Control Service in Mbala has established that there were no locusts in Zambia, said director Dr Mathew Materu yesterday.

He said he had discussed with officials in the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development, including permanent secretary, Mr Andrew Hamaamba, the reported presence of locusts in Sinazongwe.

"Nobody in the ministry had received a report about the presence of locusts in Sinazongwe or anywhere in the country which are destroying crops," he said in a telephone interview from Mbala.

Dr Materu, who had just arrived from Lusaka, was commenting on the reported presence of locusts by Sinazongwe district agricultural show chairman, Mr Gray Madvenkuku, who appealed to the ministry a week ago to do something about the locusts.

Destroyed

He said the locusts had destroyed crops, especially cotton, sunflower and vegetables, on several farms in the last three months.

The IRLCS chief scientific officer, Mr Ramadhani Chomba, said later that his organisation was not aware of the presence of locusts in the area, but promised to discuss the matter with Dr Materu so that a team of scientists could be rushed to Sinazongwe to investigate the reports.

"There is no need now to send a team there because there are no locusts," Dr Materu said, adding that no reports of crops being destroyed had been received by the ministry.

He said what might be in Sinazongwe were ordinary grasshoppers which were found in large numbers in certain areas.

SELECTIVE LIST OF JPRS SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE REPORT: Environmental Quality
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Epidemiology
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Nuclear Development and Proliferation
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development

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